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THE BITTER FEUD BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE AND AMERICAN BUSINESSES

(Mr. CANTOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, last week a bitter feud erupted in Washington, and it wasn't your typical partisan spat between liberals and conservatives, or even Democrats and Republicans. The fight was between the White House and American businesses.

Since when, Mr. Speaker, has it been acceptable for American employers and the White House to be on opposing teams? How can we expect American businesses of all sizes to get the economy back on track when they have become so frustrated by the ideological and anti-competitive agenda coming out of Washington?

To fend off criticism from business groups, including the NFIB, the White House has embarked on a summer PR campaign in an attempt to show that they are not, in fact, anti-business. But even the best PR operations aren't outfitted with time machines.

Over the past 18 months, stimulus, cap-and-trade, health care and FinReg have contributed to a perfect storm of uncertainty and debt, forcing American businesses to hunker down and hoard capital, rather than hire more workers.

Mr. Speaker, American businessmen and women aren't just a part of our economy or some constituency to be dealt with. They are our economy.

TRICKLE DOWN ECONOMICS IS BACK

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Well, trickle down economics is back. It worked so well before.

We just heard the minority leader: Tax cuts will solve everything. Tax cuts targeted toward the wealthiest among us, the super rich, will have a trickle down effect that will put people back to work and lower the deficit.

That's kind of magic, isn't it?

The Republicans forget that one-half of the so-called stimulus, nearly one-half, was tax cuts. Didn't put anybody back to work. Most people don't know they got them. Eight bucks a week out of your lower withholding.

And guess what?

We borrowed all that money. It will be paid back for 30 years. Now they want to borrow more.

There's two sides to solving the deficit problem in this country. Cut unnecessary spending and, yes, the wealthiest among us are going to have to pay a little bit of their fair share by repealing the Bush tax cuts on those folks.

They want to deny that. They want to say, oh, we can have the cake and eat it too. We'll lower revenues and we'll balance the budget.

Now, if you eliminated the entire Federal Government, except for about 60 percent of the Pentagon, no justice, no prisons, no border patrol, nothing, you still wouldn't get to balance. You have to deal with revenue.

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DON'T LET THE TAX CUTS EXPIRE

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. This is a difficult time in the life of our Nation. The American people are focused on jobs. But given the recent political rhetoric from the White House and what we just heard about letting tax cuts expire, one thing is clear: Democrats in Washington still don't get it. It's amazing.

In the midst of the worst economy in 25 years, Democrats are actually talking about embracing the largest tax increase in American history. You know, I don't know anybody back in Indiana who thinks they pay too little in taxes. The American people deserve to know that should Democrats get their way, every income tax bracket will increase on January 1, 2011. Every single one.

You know, you don't raise taxes on every American taxpayer during the worst recession in 25 years. Here's our commitment: As we did on their government takeover of health care, their national energy tax, and their failed stimulus policy, Republicans are going to stand in the gap against their job-killing agenda. We will protect taxpayers from the largest tax increase in American history with everything we've got. The American people know Washington doesn't tax too little; Washington spends too much. And Republicans are on the side of the American people.

PASS THE DREAM ACT

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, there are hundreds of thousands of children in our country, cheerleaders on a high school cheerleading squad, members of the high school football team, students who work hard and play by the rules, get ready for college, and yet they are unable to ever enter the workforce legally or go to college. Why? Because their parents violated the law and brought them here when they were 1 or 2 or 3 years old.

The DREAM Act will address and help these hundreds of thousands of de facto Americans who in most cases don't even have a memory of another country, and frequently don't even speak any other language other than English fluently.

Regardless of where one is on the larger issue of immigration reform, surely we should not visit the sins of the parents upon the children. In no other area of law do we do this, nor should we with regard to immigration.

The bipartisan DREAM Act would recognize the hundreds of thousands of de facto Americans as actual Americans. It catches up with where people already are and helps our Nation be able to benefit from the hard work and study of these wonderful Americans. I call upon my colleagues to pass the DREAM Act.

VOTE ON CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMF

(Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, Margaret Thatcher once said, "The problem with socialism is that eventually you run out of other people's money." It's true. And we see it in Europe today. Greece and others in the European Union have spent their way into bankruptcy, and unfortunately we are following in the same path. They're requesting \$300 billion from the IMF.

What most people in America don't realize is America is the largest contributor to the IMF, so we are really underwriting a European bailout. I have introduced a resolution in Congress calling for an up-or-down vote by Congress on this proposal. And I posted my idea on America Speaking Out.

Right now any citizen can go to America Speaking Out to discuss and vote on this idea. I encourage them to vote "yes" and to spread the word to others. Let's keep the momentum going.

SOCIAL SECURITY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. One in every four American households relies on Social Security, including 33.5 million retirees, 7.8 million disabled workers, and 4.2 million children. Its benefits are modest. The average retiree benefit is about \$14,000 a year, less than \$12,000 for women retirees, but essential. One in four retirees depends on Social Security for almost all of their income.

On August 14, Social Security turns 75 years old. It has never missed a check, and is cherished by Americans of all ages. We are able to celebrate its anniversary because in 2005 Democrats beat back President Bush's and congressional Republicans' privatization efforts.

Today there are new Republicans calling for privatization. Once again, Democrats will step forward to protect and strengthen Social Security so we can celebrate this national treasure for generations to come.